

DAILY SHIPPING NEWSLETTER 2004 – 002



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The **JEFFERY McALLISTER** arrives at her new home in balmy Portland Maine

Photo : Portug ©

EVENTS, INCIDENTS & OPERATIONS

Two dead after trawler sinks

Two bodies have been recovered from heavy seas after a French trawler sunk off the Cornish coast.



Two coastguard helicopters, two RNLI lifeboats and various other vessels joined the search for the Cap Burgaled Breiz, which capsized 19 miles south west of Lizard Point.

A total of five crew members were aboard the 24-metre vessel. The other three crew members are still missing. The search has now been called off and was resumed again on Friday morning.

Rescue services were alerted when Falmouth Coastguard picked up a distress beacon at 1238 GMT from a French trawler. It was quickly followed by a warning call from a second French fishing vessel, which reported seeing the unnamed French craft go down.

A rescue helicopter from the **RNAS Culdrose**, near Helston, was on the scene by 1320 GMT.



Martin Collins, from the Maritime and Coastguard Agency, said: "I can confirm that an **RNAS Culdrose** aircraft airlifted two bodies from the water." The bodies were flown to the Royal Cornwall Hospital in Truro by the aircraft, which refuelled and resumed the search for the other crew members.

The spokesman said that two empty life rafts had been spotted at the scene and helicopter crews had also reported being able to see the hull of the boat in the water.

An RAF rescue helicopter from Chivenor was also sent to the scene, as well as the Lizard and Penlee lifeboats, and the coastguard emergency towing vessel **Anglian Princess**. A number of fishing vessels joined the search, along with a **Dutch submarine**, numerous commercial ships and a car carrier.

The Royal Navy Fishery Protection Vessel **HMS Tyne**, which was on fishery protection patrol in the Falmouth Bay area, was also on the scene, acting as the co-ordinating vessel from Falmouth Coastguards. Swells of up to 25 feet high were reported in the area and winds gusting to 48 knots.

Antony Hosking, skipper of the Newlyn-based fishing vessel **Silver Dawn** which helped in the search operation, said: "The conditions were appalling. "We had a Force Eight to Nine gale blowing and sea conditions were very rough. "It made it very difficult and reduced the visibility."

HERMOD INSTALLED MARCO POLO



Heerema's **HERMOD** installed in the Gulf of Mexico the **6755 ton MARCO POLO** topsite January 15th.

Photo's :
via Jan Terpstra ©
Ch.Eng Hermod

Crew chases pirates away

PIRACY incidents continue to be reported from Indonesia with armed men being successful in boarding two vessels. According to reports of the Kuala Lumpur-based IMB Piracy Reporting Centre as posted on its website, four pirates boarded a bulk carrier at anchor via a hawse pipe on Monday 12 January. However, the ship's crew chased away the intruders, who sped off in a motor boat. The incident occurred at 0230 hrs in 01° 02' S - 117° 15' E. On 10 January spare parts were stolen from the engine room of a bulk carrier berthed at Tarahan coal terminal. On the same day in an incident in Peru, three pirates armed with guns and knives climbed up the anchor chain of a container ship at anchorage number 12, Callao (12° 12.2' S – 77° 13' W) and robbed the ship's store after threatening the watchman. On 6 January a supply ship underway on the Bonny River in Nigeria was attacked by

pirates in a motor boat who entered the bridge, threatened the master and made way with ship's store and provisions.

Smit verkoopt helft Antwerps sleeperbedrijf

Sleep- en bergingsbedrijf Smit Internationale heeft 50 procent van de aandelen van dochterbedrijf Unie van Redding- en Sleepdiensten (URS) uit Antwerpen verkocht aan Fairplay Towage uit Hamburg. Dat heeft Smit woensdag bekendgemaakt.



Top : de **UNION 7** assisteert de **LADY RACISCE** – foto : **Willem Kruit** ©

In juni vorig jaar breidde Smit zijn belang in URS uit van 49 naar 100 procent. Kort daarna gaf de onderneming aan af te willen van een deel van de aandelen. Volgens Smit was er te veel geïnvesteerd in een te kleine regio. "Je moet niet alles op één gebied inzetten", zei een woordvoerder woensdag. De transactie heeft geen invloed op de resultaten van Smit over 2003. Het bedrijf heeft niet bekendgemaakt hoeveel Fairplay Towage voor het belang betaalt.

Bosporus delay 'wildly exaggerated'

RUSSIAN maritime and oil industry sources claimed that reports of Black Sea oil shipping delays and tanker traffic jams at the Bosporus strait have been wildly exaggerated by Turkish officials in the western press. A Russian transport ministry source told Fairplay that Turkish navigation rules were tightened again in November. These do not permit vessels of over 50,000dwt to move through the Dardanelles channel without a Turkish pilot and even then there are movement and convoy restrictions. Ships under 50,000dwt can proceed without the new limitations. However, once the new rules have been integrated into sailing schedules, a Russian maritime source claims, the backlog of vessels waiting to pass through the Strait has disappeared, and "the situation is back to normal there now." He was backed up by data from Novorossiysk, Russia's Black Sea oil outlet. In December

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Novorossiysk port shipped 4M tonnes of oil, 20% up on November. Tuapse, the smaller Black Sea port nearby, says it shipped 473,000 tonnes in December compared to 263,000 tonnes a month earlier. Compared to December 2002, Novorossiysk port shipments show 30% growth, Tuapse 20%. Sources expect shipments to stay at the December levels this month.

Holland America Line Announces ms Noordam's Europe 2004 as Farewell Sailing Season

Holland America Line Inc., a unit of Carnival Corporation & plc announced the signing of a long-term agreement to charter the cruise ship ms **Noordam** to UK-based Thomson Holidays, who will market the vessel from the U.K. as the **Thomson Celebration**. Holland America Line will continue to operate the **Noordam** through November 12, 2004, on her currently published itineraries. The charter agreement also provides Thomson Holidays with an option to purchase the vessel during the charter period.



Since her launch in 1984, the **Noordam** has sailed on nearly 800 voyages, carrying approximately one million satisfied guests. "The **Noordam** is a wonderful, classic vessel. She has provided our loyal guests with many happy memories, and she will be fondly remembered," said A. Kirk Lanterman, Chairman and CEO of Holland America Line. "Beginning on April 15, 2004 we will celebrate the ms Noordam's Farewell Season featuring 20 special sailings."

The 20-sailing **Noordam** "Farewell Season" begins with a special transatlantic departure on April 15, 2004 from Tampa, her long-time U.S. homeport, to Lisbon. The Noordam will then sail a total of seven Mediterranean sailings; eight Baltic sailings; two European Capitals cruises; a special D-Day Anniversary sailing and a Norwegian Fjords sailing. The final cruise sails on November 3 from Rome, arriving Lisbon on November 12. Each sailing will feature special on-board events as well as offers for past **Noordam** and **Nieuw Amsterdam** guests.

CASUALTY REPORTING

Smit wins Pride salvage contract

ROTTERDAM-based **Smit Salvage** has won the bid to raise the 81,000gt cruise newbuilding **Pride of America** at Lloyd Werft in Bremerhaven. Smit calculated the operation to return the vessel to floating status would take 14 days, whereas rival Titan, in co-operation with German salvor Bugsier, offered 21 days at a daily rate based on the SCOPIC clause. The ship will only be righted when as many as 20 divers, working simultaneously, manage to close three holes in the shell plating and several hundred assembly openings in the lower compartments. This will mean the cutting of all cables by the divers. It is estimated that the salvage costs will be only a small fraction of the damage in the flooded areas.

Smit divers arrive at Pride site



SMIT Salvage divers have started to inspect the underwater hull area of the cruise ship newbuilding **Pride of America** at Lloyd Werft. Spokesman Lars Walder told Fairplay that the first few divers are already on site, and will be joined by several others together with salvage equipment. The initial inspection of the whole underwater area will be carried out over the weekend, and only when that is completed will the access holes on the ship's starboard side be closed. Walder said that openings in the transverse bulkheads will also need to be closed before pumping can begin. He confirmed the plan is to refloat the ship in about two week's time. Smit is to be paid on a daily rate based on the SCOPIC clause.



SHIPYARD NEWS

A&P eyes troubled French repairer

SOURCES in Le Havre suggest that UK repair group A&P would be interested in taking over troubled Le Havre-based repairer yard SORENI (Société de Réparation Navale et Industrielle). It is not the first time A&P has shown interest in the business, which has a large floating dock capable of taking vessels of up to 170,000dwt and four smaller dry docks. Since it was set up in November 2001, SORENI has fought to re-launch the ship repair business locally but with mixed fortunes. It is reported that the company's current problems stem from the inability of its main shareholders, twelve local suppliers, to co-ordinate efficiently to secure ship repair contracts. SORENI was launched to replace the former repairer SIREN, which used to be part of the ACH shipyard group that closed down in 1999. So far, work has focused on repairs to ferries and dredgers.

China Building World's Biggest Shipyard

Construction has begun in China on what is being considered as the world's biggest shipyard, with operations expected to commence in 2007. The shipyard, covering eight kilometres of coast along Shanghai's Changxing Island, will be fully operational by 2015 with annual capacity of eight million tons. Two existing shipyards in Shanghai, the Jiangnan and the Hudong, will be relocated to the new yard. This US\$3.6 billion project aims to make China the world's leading shipbuilding nation by transforming its state-run China State Shipbuilding Corp (CSSC) into the world's largest shipbuilder.

CSSC vice general manager Zhou Zhenbo said the yard would be capable of building high-tech liquefied natural gas carriers, supertankers and luxury liners. It will also help boost relevant industries such as steel and engine manufacturing, and create job opportunities for more than 80,000 people. China is already the world's third largest shipbuilder after South Korea and Japan and the Chinese government has made clear it wants to become number one, outlining an ambitious shipbuilding development plan earlier this year.

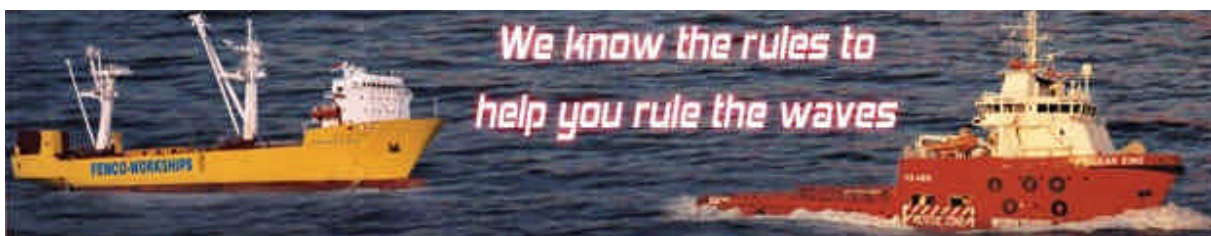
World's Largest Container Ships

Lloyd's Register is to class Seaspans new series of **9,200 TEU** container ships, to be built at Samsung Heavy Industries (SHI) in Korea. Seaspans has ordered four vessels, with an option for a further four. The first ship in the series will be the largest container ship ever constructed in the world. Seaspans was also the first container ship operator to break the 8,000 TEU barrier, ordering five vessels of 8,100 TEU earlier this year, also classed by Lloyd's Register and currently being built at SHI.

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Onorato again questions Tirrenia

ITALIAN towage company Rimorchiatori Sardi has accused another Tirrenia di Navigazione captain of rejecting its help when a ferry ran aground yesterday morning. At 0600 hrs, in strong winds, Tirrenia ro-ro **Sicilia** ran aground on a rocky bank on the approach to Sardinia's Porto Torres. "The decision by the master of the **Sicilia** not to take the line from Sardi's **Alessandro Onorato** was unwise and against common safety rules, especially as there were 30 passengers on board," Sardi owner Vincenzo Onorato said. It follows an incident two weeks ago in which Tirrenia ro-pax **Athara** scraped the **Moby Freedom** while mooring at the neighbouring port of Olbia. Onorato, who also owns Moby, then accused Athara of similarly rejecting an offer to supply a tug despite the strong winds.

MSC CRUISES IN FLORIDA

For five years, MSC Italian Cruises has sailed from Port Everglades during the winter, but its older ships came and went with little fanfare, literally overshadowed by lines that had newer, bigger vessels.

With the North American debut of its new \$275 million **MSC Lirica** this week, MSC hopes for a little limelight. It is the first ship built for the Naples, Italy-based line, which has been sailing for more than a decade with secondhand tonnage. **Lirica** will do 11-night Caribbean cruises from Fort Lauderdale until May 15, when it returns to the Mediterranean for the summer.

With the gleaming white and gold ship, MSC expects to boost its North American passenger traffic from 1,500 five years ago to 15,000 this year. Next year, when a sister ship joins Lirica at Port Everglades, 45,000 passengers are projected. "We're not going to stop here," vows Nick Arena, president of the

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company's U.S. operations based in Moonachie, N.J. "We have ambitious plans."



Top : The **MELODY** seen here arriving in the port of Genoa – photo : Piet Sinke ©

It also has deep pockets. MCS is the cruise arm of Mediterranean Shipping Co., whose fleet of 210 cargo container ships brings in revenue of about \$4.5 billion a year, Arena said. The firm diversified into the cruise business in 1992. Until now, it has been an also-ran by virtue of its older ships. Its first vessel was the **Achille Lauro**, an Italian ship best known for a 1985 terrorist attack in which American passenger Leon Klinghoffer was killed.

That ship has since been sold. Its other ships include the **Melody** (1982), **Rhapsody** (1977) and **Monterey** (1952). Raising its profile in the U.S. market won't be easy. Competitors in the Caribbean such as Carnival Cruise Lines are increasing their spending on advertising this year after several less active years. New capacity continues to pour into the Caribbean, especially from Princess Cruises, which will bring its 3,100-passenger Caribbean Princess to Port Everglades in April. MSC said its 1,600-passenger ship is 90 percent booked for the coming season. "We don't have to produce 1 million passengers," said Steve Hirshan, vice president of sales and marketing. The line hopes to sell passengers on its Italian crew, style and cuisine, plus personal attention and service.

"Most of the mass-market cruise product has grown much more homogenous," Hirshan said. MSC works with 500 to 600 travel agents, concentrated heavily in Florida and the Northeast. Its pitch includes a promise to pay commission on port charges as well as the cruise fare, a practice other lines have abandoned. MSC's clientele is primarily retired people who have the time for an 11-night cruise. That may change next December when the Lirica's sister ship, **MSC Opera**, arrives to offer seven-night cruises. Prices for the 11-night cruise start at \$999 per person and run to \$1,999, Hirshan said. The cruise that leaves today visits San Juan, Puerto Rico; Antigua; Grenada; St. Lucia; St. Barthelemy; Tortola and Nassau, the Bahamas.

NYK maps out fleet expansion plan

NYK is to place newbuilding orders for 10 vessels - eight large-sized **8,100 TEUs** containerships and two large-sized 175,000-ton bulk carriers - with shipbuilders in Korea and China.

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The company said the move is to reinforce the competitiveness of its containership fleet and expand its bulker fleet under a policy for the global expansion of bulk and energy transport service. In addition, NYK has mapped out a five-year fleet expansion plan for fiscal 2003 through fiscal 2007. This will see NYK embark on a fleet expansion that will take in a total of 160 newbuildings over the five-year period.

Total cost of expansion will be ? 770 billion (US\$7.2 billion), which will enable the company to further expand its principal shipping business (excluding the acquisition of used vessels and short-term spot charter contracts). Under the plan, NYK will enlarge its present fleet of about 540 vessels to approximately 650 vessels by the end of fiscal 2007 while pushing ahead with the renovation of its fleet through the disposal of superannuated vessels and the return of chartered ships.

The new fleet expansion plan is also designed to ensure the 'best mix' of NYK's own vessels and those chartered on a long- and medium-term basis with a view to establishing a fully-competitive fleet.

QM2 arrival behind screening call

NEW York Senator Charles Schumer cited the [Queen Mary 2's](#) arrival in the United States as the precipitating event for his letter to the federal government this week recommending that biometric devices under its US-VISIT programme should be installed at the New York City Passenger Ship Terminal. "The Queen Mary 2 is scheduled to start regular New York City service in April and, with a passenger capacity of 2,620 and a crew of 1,253, promises to bring hundreds of foreign nationals to New York every week," he wrote in his letter, released yesterday, to Asa Hutchinson, Under Secretary for Border & Transportation Security at the Department of Homeland Security. "I respectfully suggest that we would not let a battleship dock alongside Manhattan without trying to figure out who is inside, and we should do no less for a cruise ship of that size." Manhattan's terminal can handle five cruise vessels at a time and has the second highest passenger volume in the United States. Last year, 900,000 cruise passengers used the terminal, about 10% of the world's cruise ship passengers, according to Schumer.

Cruise lines drop EU-member Malta

CRUISE lines have responded Malta's impending full membership of the European Union by dropping their vessel calls. The island's Federation of Associations of Travel and Tourism revealed yesterday that 140 regular calls carrying an estimated 180,000 passengers have been cancelled for this year. The reason given is that, from 1 May, Malta will lose the attraction of tax-free shopping. Under European tax protocol cruise ships are only allowed to operate tax-free concessions if their itinerary includes a port of call outside the EU. About 256,000 cruise passengers visited Valletta between January and October last year, of which 110,000 came from the UK and 99,000 from Spain. A M€10M (\$29M) cruise and ferry terminal development is going ahead at Pinto Wharf, for completion in June 2005. Chris Falzon, chief executive of the Valletta International Sea Terminal consortium, which is behind the project, says he hopes the improved reputation from EU membership will balance out any negative tax impact

Kotug loses Wallenius Wilhelmsen

ROTTERDAM-based tug operator Kotug has lost major client Wallenius Wilhelmsen (WWL) in Bremerhaven. Since start of the year, WWL's car carriers have been handled by the local tug pool comprising Transport & Service, Unterweser-Reederei and Midgard. The situation is the same for Hamburg, where WWL makes up a smaller share. Kotug MD Peter Kleinert denied that the switch was a consequence of the loss of subsidies granted to the Dutch towing companies by the Dutch government and declared illegal by the European Commission last year. Kleinert said the existing tug fleet of six in Bremerhaven would be kept and that the company's plans were still underway for two

tug newbuildings. Jobs are continuing to be generated through increased work being carried out for MSC and NYK, he said.

NAVY NEWS



Military support ships stand idle at the pier of the Roosevelt Roads Naval Station, in Ceiba, Puerto Rico on Thursday, Jan. 15, 2004. Closing the curtain on operations that have spanned six decades, the U.S. Navy said Thursday that bombs, torpedoes and other supplies have been removed from its sole base in Puerto Rico to prepare for decommissioning. About 2,200 troops and civilian personnel are to be moved or offered jobs elsewhere by the time the base closes March 31.

Rotterdam voert eerste troepentransport uit



Hr.Ms. Rotterdam heeft zondag en maandag (11 & 12 januari) haar eerste troepentransport uitgevoerd ten behoeve van de United Nations Mission in Liberia. Het schip vervoerde 200 Ethiopische militairen en een tiental voertuigen van Monrovia naar Greenville. De Ethiopiërs zijn zondag aan boord gegaan van **Hr.Ms. Rotterdam** en vanochtend op het strand van Greenville afgestapt. De Ethiopische militairen zullen een sectorhoofdkwartier in Zwedru bemannen.

Hr.Ms. Rotterdam voerde dit weekend nog een evacuatie van 225 Liberiaanse vluchtelingen uit. Daarvoor werd zij ingezet voor de opvang van gewonden en een transport van hulpgoederen naar Robbertsport.

In 2000/2001 verrichtte **Hr.Ms. Rotterdam** taken ten behoeve van UNMEE (United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea). Hoewel het in het grensgebied tussen Eritrea en Ethiopië, waarop UNMEE zich toentertijd concentreerde, nog steeds onrustig is, nemen Ethiopische troepen nu ook deel aan de VN Vredesmacht in Liberia (foto's: **CAVD Koninklijke Marine**).



MIDWAY BECAME MUSEUM SHIP



The decommissioned aircraft carrier **Midway** prepares January 10th, 2004 to moor at its final resting place at Navy pier where it will become the largest museum devoted to carriers and naval aviation. The ship was temporarily moored at Naval Air Station North Island this past week so that preparations could be made to formally present the aircraft carrier to the city of San Diego. When commissioned on September 10, 1945 as USS Midway (CVB 41) she was the largest carrier ever put to sea.

Corvettes for UAE Navy

The navy of the United Arab Emirates has signed a contract worth more than 500 million dollars for six multi-purpose missile corvettes from Abu Dhabi Ship Building (ADSB). The "**Baynunah**" class 70-metre long vessels will be designed by France's Constructions Mecaniques de Normandie (CMN) under a subcontract from ADSB, and CMN will also build the first ship in France. The remaining three vessels, as well as two optional vessels, will be built at ADSB's shipyard in Abu Dhabi.

This 70m multi-mission corvette will offer a variety of complex mission capabilities combined with a modern combat system with the capability to perform a wide range of military operations, including defense against both air and surface threats. The latest in electronic sensor technology, along with a combination of newly developed missiles and guns will provide a degree of defensive firepower that is unique for vessels of this size. The vessel, boasting speeds of over 30 knots, will also serve as a base for helicopter missions and have a fully enclosed helicopter hangar area on deck.

Canadian warship departs Halifax to join U.S.-led group in Persian Gulf

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A Canadian frigate left for Virginia on Wednesday, where it will join a U.S.-led group of ships that will monitor the Persian Gulf for possible terrorist activity.

HMCS Toronto begins the six-month assignment by steaming to Norfolk, Va., to join an aircraft-carrier group, and then carries on to the gulf. Members of the 235-person crew are expected to monitor boats moving through the gulf, boarding suspicious vessels to carry out inspections. However, the ship left the port **without** a Sea King helicopter.

The navy has said the aging aircraft will join the ship in the gulf by March 31, but it will not be able to hoist personnel, refuel in-flight or sling loads.

The helicopter fleet had restrictions placed on it last year after a series of engine problems were reported in other aircraft, prompting an investigation that has yet to determine the cause. Air crew aboard Toronto have said the restrictions will make the crew's work more difficult but they should be able to perform the bulk of their responsibilities.

MOVEMENTS

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Ro/pax **PREVELIS**, Greek flag, built in 1980, 15354 grt. Vessel operates the route Piraeus to Crete island. In photo as is seen tied up at Piraeus harbor

Photo : George Grekos ©

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The Svister tug **CULTRA** operating in the Port of Belfast
Originally built for service on the River Tees in the North of England the **CULTRA** and her sister tug **CARRICKFERGUS** are due for replacement during this coming year

Photo : Tommy Bryceland – Scotland ©



Tom Juins yard in Cartagena (Spain), with a lot of "known" vessels , from the left the former **Kooren** tug **TRITON**, the former **SMIT** salvage vessels **DOLFJN**, **RAM** and **BUFFEL**

Photo : Remco Schrijver ©

AIRCRAFT / AIRPORT NEWS



The first **KLM MD-11** seen in her **new colours** departing from Schiphol Amsterdam Airport January 11th.

Photo : Marinus Bergsma ©

Emirates adds to Airbus fleet

EMIRATES has taken delivery of the first of eight **Airbus A340-300** aircraft that will be added to the fleet this year.

The airline has signed nine-year leases for the fleet with Boeing Aircraft Trading, which acquired them from Singapore Airlines as part of a wider deal.

His Highness Sheikh Ahmed bin Saeed Al-Maktoum, Emirates chairman, said: "Even with one of the world's biggest order books, we urgently need more aircraft.

"Dubai is fast emerging as the new 21st century global airline hub, thanks in large part to our visionary government, and this move will help us meet ever-rising demand for our service, as even the 71 aircraft we have ordered for delivery by 2012 are not sufficient.

"The new jets, similar in many respects to our future Airbus **A340-500s** and **600s**, will fit seamlessly into our fleet and help us continue to give our customers the very best value for money," Sheikh Ahmed added.

RIJNSMOND WEATHER

Vooruitzichten van zaterdag t/m dinsdag:

AANHOUDEND WISSELVALLIG!

Morgen enkele (winterse) buien. Zondagochtend wat lichte vorst, overdag droog met wat zon. Vanaf maandag opnieuw sterk wisselvallig.

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Maximumtemperatuur:	6	6	7	9
Minimumtemperatuur:	4	0	3	6
Zonnekans in %:	20	40	10	10
Neerslagkans in %:	60	20	70	70
Neerslag in mm:	3	0	6	6
Windrichting kracht:	W-4-6	NW-3-4	W-4-6	W-3-5

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